(iv) that, the powers of revision vested in the High Court may be done away with.

(c) The proposals are under consideration.

698. [*Transferred to the 6th March, 1987.*]

Proposal to charge interest for delayed payment of gratuity

699. SHRI CHITTA BASU:
SHRI RAMKRISHNA MAZUMDER:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have since finalised the proposed scheme under which employers are to be charged interest for delayed payment of gratuity; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) and (b) It has been decided to make a suitable provision in the Payment of Gratuity Act, 1972 making it obligatory on the employers to pay interest at a specified rate if the gratuity is not paid within 30 days from the date it becomes due. For this purpose, a suitable amending Bill will be introduced in the Parliament shortly.

Agitation against Hindi imposition

700. SHRI K. GOPALAN:
SHRI V. GOPALSAMY:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the recent agitation in Tamil Nadu against imposition of Hindi; and

(b) if so, what steps are being taken to implement Nehru's assurance to non-Hindi speaking people?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) Yes, Sir. Government are aware of the recent agitation in Tamil Nadu against alleged imposition of Hindi.

(b) The assurance given by Late Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru regarding Hindi has already been incorporated in the Official Language Act, 1963, after amending it in 1967. Section 3(1) of the Official Languages Act, 1963 as amended provides that even after the expiration of the period of fifteen years from the commencement of the Constitution, the English language may continue to be used, in addition to Hindi, for all the official purposes of the Union for which it was being used immediately before 26th January, 1965. Section 3(5) of this Act further provides that this provision shall remain in force until resolutions for the discontinuance of the use of English language have been passed by the legislatures of all the States which have not adopted Hindi as their official language and until after considering these resolutions a resolution for such discontinuance has been passed by each House of Parliament. These legal provisions are being faithfully implemented by Government.

Joint ventures in marine fisheries

701. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to permit large Indian industrial houses and companies coming under MRTP/FERA to establish joint ventures in marine fisheries; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons and justification for the decision and the